



MEMO



N O R T H C A R O L I N A D I V I S I O N O F
E M E R G E N C Y M A N A G E M E N T

42nd CST Sponsors Exercise Eastern Shield 2009

Take 28 agencies, over 700 personnel, around 200 response vehicles, combine them with a weapons of mass destruction scenario, mix thoroughly and what do you get? The result is the second annual Eastern Shield exercise, which was the culmination of months of planning by state, local and federal agencies. This

year's exercise took place at the state port in Morehead, NC. Responders participated in the three-day event to apply training and demonstrate capabilities. The exercise was sponsored by the NC National Guard 42nd Civil Support Team (CST) from Greenville, and hosted by the Carteret County Emergency Services Office and the NC State Ports. The mission was to bring together federal and state military assets with local and state agencies to work together.

The first day focused on partnerships with local first responders to assess an explosive and chemical threat inside a building at the port. Participating agencies included Carteret County Emergency Management, Morehead Fire and EMS, Carteret County Sheriff's Office, United State Marine Corp (USMC), Cherry Point HazMat and

Atlantic Beach Police Department. A unified command was established and maintained, incorporating the use of incident action planning. NC Emergency Management field staff responded when USMC Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and 42nd CST assets were requested to ascertain and mitigate the threat.

The second day was a mass casualty event, where more than 150 USMC personnel played victims of a sarin chemical attack. USMC Chemical Biological Incident Response Force responded to the state port to work with the 42nd CST and Carteret EM to extract and decontaminate victims. USMC EOD—Cherry Point Marine Corp Air Station was also on scene to disarm

explosive devices.

The third day's scenario was two-fold, where another explosive device tied to dirty bomb materials was found at the state port, while a cargo ship off the coast was inbound with terrorist dirty bomb materials on board.

This complex scenario divided response forces, sending the 42nd CST and USMC EOD to the cargo ship, while the 43rd CST (South Carolina National Guard) was called in to mitigate the chemical threat on the Port. Additionally, the USAir Force Hazmat/Chemical Biological team was called in from Seymour Johnson AFB to assist Port operations. The Military Sealift Command provided the MV SSgt Edward Carter, a 950 ft cargo vessel which berthed at the Port during the exercise; several realistic scenarios were run aboard this ship by various teams, maximizing use of the vessel.

The exercise provided a real-world application of interoperable communications, as Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders was used for communication by multiple response agencies to facilitate coordination of resources.

"The 2009

Eastern Shield exercise is an excellent example of collaboration by several agencies to effectively apply Homeland Security funding toward common goals," Dianne Curtis, NCEM Area Coordinator



L to R: Jo Ann Smith, Carteret County EM, Tony Spencer, Carteret County EM, Rachael Tovey, NCEM



Members from the 42nd CST and USMC Cherry Point EOD board the SSgt Edward Carter

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NCEM Works With Volunteer Groups After Tornadoes Hit Eastern N.C.

On November 15, 2008 tornadoes swept through Johnston and Wilson counties. After initial damage assessments by the local county officials, NCEM was contacted for assistance. Once NCEM received a state declaration, the Individual Assistance (IA) Program opened disaster recovery centers in Kenly and Elm City to assist disaster victims. Small Business Administration (SBA) was on sight to take applications for SBA loans.



Five families in Johnston County were awarded the maximum grant amount of \$28,800 through the IA Program. Staff from the individual assistance program worked closely with volunteer organizations to assist those families with unmet needs. The Baptist Men, N.C. Methodist Disaster Group, the Lion's Club and the Taiwan Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation out of Washington, DC worked at the disaster recovery center to help victims with their needs.



The Lion's Club and the Buddhist foundation provided victims with visa debit cards ranging from \$25 to \$500. The Baptist Men worked for a week to clean up debris, cut and remove trees and make repairs at 15 sites in the Kenly.

SAR Program Preparing For The Busy Season

The Urban Search and Air Rescue (USAR) program has held three structural collapse exercises this year; one more is planned for late April. In January, the Triangle USAR team (Task Force 8) used four buildings in downtown Raleigh to practice technical rescues. In February, the Greensboro team (Task Force 6) used the old US postal distribution just before major demolition began. In March during a large scale exercise teams from across the state deployed to Charlotte where they were graded on everything from travel documentation, to communication to demobilization plans. Teams from Wilmington, Lumberton, Fayetteville, Greenville, Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, Cary, Greensboro and Charlotte participated in the exercise.

Also in March, wilderness search and rescue teams from around the state traveled to Linville Gorge for the annual Western North Carolina search and rescue exercise. The four-day exercise operates like a real search with around-the-clock operations and a person roaming around the Linville Gorge wilderness waiting to be found.

North Carolina's search and rescue program has emerged as a national leader much to the credit of our dedicated first responders. In fact, many other states and territories consider North Carolina a model for statewide mutual aid and search and rescue programs. In addition to supporting multiple state activities, state SAR Coordinator Todd Brown provided input for a survival article in the April issue of Women's Health Magazine. (See www.womenshealthmag.com/life/survival-tips)

For more information about the SAR program, contact Todd Brown at 919-733-4998 or Tbrown@ncem.org.

NCEM and NCNG Host Helicopter Rescue Workshop

On April 14-15 the NC National Guard (NCNG) and NC Emergency Management will host a helicopter rescue workshop for eight other states who are interested in establishing helo-aquatic rescue teams. Staff from National Guard bureaus and aviation offices in Virginia, Missouri, Kentucky, Texas, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee and Puerto Rico are expected to attend the training. The training will be held at the NCNG Army Aviation Support Facility in Salisbury.

The North Carolina Helo-Aquatic Rescue Team (NCHART) has become a national model for partnering Army National Guard equipment and staff with civilian search and rescue teams to be deployed in times of crisis.

For more information, contact Todd Brown at (919) 733-4998 or Tbrown@ncem.org.



Americans At Their Best.
THE NATIONAL GUARD

NCUSAR-TF-10 holds Readiness Exercise.

On March 6th, 32 NC Task Force 10 (NCTF-10) members consisting of Greenville Fire & Rescue and New Bern Fire Department began pre-deployment procedures for Readiness Exercise Pay. The event took place at the Charlotte Fire Department Urban Search and Rescue training facility. The pre-deployment process consisted of a medical screening, gear check and briefing for all members. NC Emergency Management staff served as evaluators.

When NCTF-10 arrived at the Readiness Exercise Pay event, they were given a situational briefing by site controllers. The site controllers gave the team two operational objectives. The first objective was to form a reconnaissance team and assess the area. Reconnaissance teams noted areas that held reported victims or missing personnel which lead to concentrated extraction efforts in those areas for all teams during the 48-hour exercise. Teams used specialized technical equipment such as cameras, listening devices, GPS and mapping systems.

The second objective was to assist and continue with extraction and rescue operations. Based on information gathered from the reconnaissance teams and discussion between the operational section chief and task force leader, multiple rescue groups were able to mitigate hazards by using shoring techniques, advanced technical rescue procedures and heavy concrete breaching and breaking equipment to reach missing personnel.

To conclude the exercise, NCTF-10 carried out its standard demobilization plan by demobilizing the base of operation and equipment. Both objectives were successfully completed.

For more information, contact Dianne Curtis at (252) 361-5427 or Dcurtis@ncem.org.



VIPER Site Activations

Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders (VIPER) is a way for first responders and public safety officials from multiple agencies to communicate with one another on a single radio system. Public safety officials in North Carolina should be able to communicate directly with other public safety officials without having to relay the message through a communications center. When put in place, interoperable communications will benefit all public safety agencies when dealing with daily emergency calls and large scale disasters. For more information on VIPER: www.nccrimecontrol.org/VIPER or contact Captain Alan Melvin, NC State Highway Patrol at 919-662-4440 or amelvin@ncshp.org. The following VIPER sites have been established recently and are now operational:

- **Halifax in Halifax County.**
- **Odom in Northampton County.**
- **Tramway in Lee County.**
- **Laurinburg in Scotland County. 129 This is the 129th VIPER site activation to date.**

FEMA Adds Industry Outreach to IPAWS Website

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has updated the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) website to improve public education and provide information to emergency managers regarding national alerts and warnings (see



FEMA

www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws). The system is the nation's next-generation infrastructure of alert and warning networks that will expand upon the traditional radio and television Emergency Alert System by providing one message over more media to more people before, during and after a disaster. In the event of a national emergency, the President can use

IPAWS to send a message to the American public quickly, easily and simultaneously using multiple types of communications to protect lives and property.

"This will be the one-stop shop for information on IPAWS," said Wade Witmer, acting Deputy Director of the IPAWS Division within FEMA's National Continuity Programs Directorate. "And the website will provide a forum on the Industry Outreach section, where the government can share information with the private sector and other stakeholders about our initiatives and programs."

The site also features new program materials, including an IPAWS fact sheet, updated information about IPAWS projects and partners, and recent program success stories.

FEMA's federal partners in developing IPAWS include the National Weather Service, Federal Communications Commission, DHS Science & Technology Directorate's Command, Control and Interoperability Division, and the Emergency Interoperability Consortium.

In 2008, North Carolina Emergency Management agreed to participate in the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System. The system will support alert and warning capabilities that will allow emergency officials to send alerts to their residents, integrate new alert and warning technologies and/or support alerts in formats understood by those who don't speak English or have disabilities. It operates under the principle of common alerting protocol standards and commercial mobile alert system. The Department of Homeland Security provides the initial equipment and covers all funding obligations associated with the program. The state's annual recurring costs are estimated between \$5,000 and \$15,000 if North Carolina decides to continue the study. For more information, contact Cory Grier at (919) 733-3824 or cgrier@ncem.org.

2009 Point of Distribution Requirements

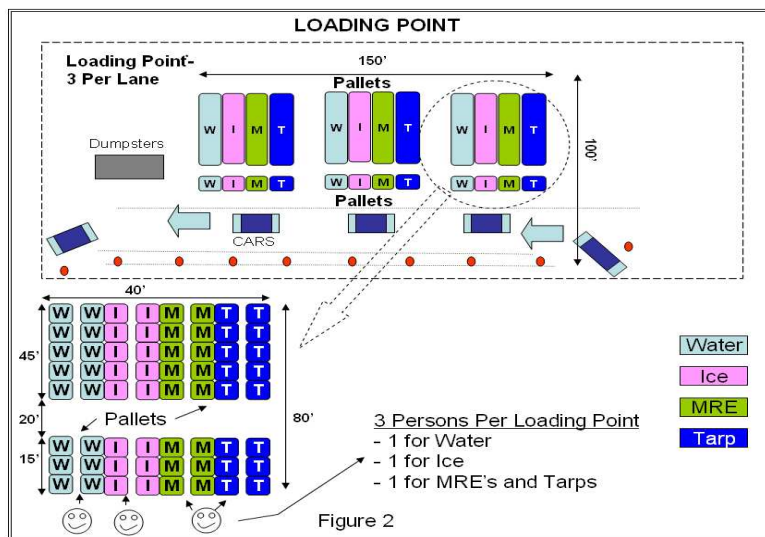
A point of distribution (POD) is a location established by county and local governments to distribute commodities to citizens during a disaster.

Development of local government capability to distribute disaster supplies is extremely important. Recent experience with hurricanes in the Gulf states from Katrina in 2005 to Ike in 2008 indicates that, although food and water was available from federal and state governments, lack of distribution capability at the local level prevented supplies from reaching those in need. When PODs are used by local governments, as has been demonstrated in Florida, disaster supplies reach the public in a timely manner. Additionally, pre-planned use of PODs provides a known distribution capacity which greatly simplifies supply chain management at all levels of government.

The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) guidance for 2009 requires counties to:

- Plan for sufficient POD locations to provide for distribution of meals, water, ice, and tarps to 20% of the county's population.
- Report the POD addresses and POD types to NC Division of Emergency Management no later than November 1, 2009.
- Provide personnel and equipment to staff 25% of the identified sites within three days of a catastrophic disaster.
- Report addresses of current distribution sites such as fire stations and churches, with an estimate of the number of people they could service in a 12 hour day, not later than July 30, 2009.
- Attend a Division of Emergency Management POD planning course prior to October 1, 2009.

Type III POD Layout (Serves 5,000 people per day)



A Point of Distribution Standard Operating Guide has been developed and is now available to local EM planners. A copy is posted to the WebEOC File Library in the Logistics Folder. The guide explains POD operation in detail, including how to determine the number and location of PODs to serve 20% of the county population, and procedures for conducting inventory management and re-supply requests.

Training courses are available to assist local government planners in developing a commodity distribution plan for their locality. The FEMA Emergency Management Institute has developed an online independent study course—IS-26 (See <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS26.asp>)

A class room version is scheduled for release this spring. NC Emergency Management is also scheduling a POD planning course to be offered in each disaster preparedness region this summer.

<u>2009 POD Training Dates and Locations</u>		
DPR 1	July 2	Global Trans Park - Kinston, NC
DPR 2	June 30	Global Trans Park - Kinston, NC
DPR 3	June 18	Moore County - Pinehurst, NC
DPR 4	June 16	Granville County EOC
DPR 5	June 17	Winston-Salem, NC
DPR 6	June 9	A-B Technical College – Enka Campus
DPR 7	June 12	Charlotte Fire Department Training Academy

Local EM planners with questions concerning this requirement should contact their NCDDEM area coordinator or contact State Logistics. For more information, contact Paul Latham at (919) 733-3767 or Platham@ncem.org.

Martin County Supports ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition

Sometime at the end of January, there was a called meeting with Martin County Emergency Management, Inspections, Sheriff's office, and several members including the executive producer of Extreme Makeover, Home Edition. During this meeting, all were sworn to secrecy that there was a possibility a family in Jamesville was a finalist in the show. The recipient was the Jeff Cooper family. Jeff Cooper is a disabled veteran, decorated combat medic, of the Gulf War.

I was overwhelmed at first thinking about my task at hand, coordinating fire, EMS, and law enforcement activities for six days, 24 hours. Martin County is small, with six volunteer fire departments, three volunteer EMS departments, and 1 station combination paid and volunteer. Like I said earlier, we were sworn to secrecy by Conrad Ricketts, the Executive producer, not to mention Extreme Makeover and Jamesville in the same sentence or any e-mail transmissions. From that day forward, the project was named **PROJECT 623**. So named for the 6th season and the 23rd episode. I continued to watch the show, as always, on Sunday nights, looking at the crowd and wondering to myself how to plan for the event that was about to take place. I could not even mention it to the volunteer chiefs, because of the possibility of a leak to the press.

Around the third week of February, news leaked out that Extreme Home Makeover was planning to visit an eastern North Carolina resident and Edenton's builder was selected as the builder. The "buzz" quickly circulated around Chowan, Bertie and Martin County. Even my wife and kids came to me saying that the show was coming to Martin county. As hard as it was, I played along asking, "do you actually believe that the show would pick a builder from Edenton to build a house in Martin County?" Little did they know!

On March 3, during an un-related meeting with all of the fire chiefs and rescue captains, I announced that we would soon participate in an exercise that used the incident command system. I told them that the exercise would test our ability to provide fire, rescue and law enforcement and work together as a county, then asked for their commitment without disclosing the date and nature of the exercise. They all seemed puzzled, but receptive to the idea.

The plan? To provide EMS, fire and law enforcement for seven days. Due to all of the equipment, site location and other factors, it was not going to be an easy task. I made a plan to staff an EZ-go with stretcher for EMS (two personnel), and an EZ-go with fire extinguishers (two personnel), one operations chief and one incident commander. The intent was for

the EZ-go to transport to a staging area and meet with the primary EMS provider, Jamesville EMS. The EZ-go also would handle small fires and, if needed, contact the Jamesville fire department. The days were broken down into 12 hour operational periods. Two landing zones were designated close to the site in the event of a major injury for Eastcare.

On Friday, March 6th everyone—including the cast—met at the Hampton Inn In Williamston, and it was on! The cast did the door knock about 9:30 a.m. I held a meeting with the chiefs that afternoon and started lining up personnel. The next day, I staged all of my equipment and started the first of 12 operational periods. Saturday was quiet for the most part, it was family move out day. Sunday was a different story: the Braveheart rush, the rush of the blue shirts and demolition day. Civil war re-enactors were used to look like they were blowing up the house. The pyrotechnics team placed three-inch salutes in the attic of a double-wide trailer setting the house on fire (which wasn't planned). After scrambling to put the fire out, the demolition took just a couple of hours.

Sunday night the build began. The contractors and volunteers worked around the clock building the Cooper's new home. At any given time there were approximately 750 to 1,000 volunteers working. Catering used about 20 sponsors and fed four meals a day, and lots of coffee. Monday started with the spectators, from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.. Martin County Transit transported approximately 12,500 volunteers and spectators throughout the week.

Friday was reveal day. The day began with rain and it continued to rain all day while we prepared to "move that bus" at 2:00 in the afternoon. The rain caused a few set backs, but the bus was finally moved at 7:30 p.m.

Throughout the week there were only minor injuries and one diabetic emergency; none were transported. The only fire was the one on demolition day. My wife said it was like I was in camp all week and met lots of new friends. Although there were many long hours, I did make many new friends. Many, I'll likely never see again, but will always remember from project 623!

The show is scheduled to air Sunday May 3 at 8:00 p.m. I'll be watching. After all, I can say "been there, done that, got the t-shirt"

Article was written by Mike Stalls, Martin County Emergency Management Director. He can be reached at (252) 789-4530.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
HTTP://WWW.NCEM.ORG



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Email: cgrier@ncem.org

***"In the Business of Saving Lives and
Protecting Property"***

The North Carolina Division of Emergency Management was formed in 1977 to coordinate the preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation activities of all agencies for emergency management within North Carolina. It performs this mission by planning, organizing, staffing, equipping, training, testing and activating emergency management programs during times of need.

Website Resources

WEBSITE

www.fema.gov
www.nemaweb.org
www.emaponline.org
www.emacweb.org
www.nccrimecontrol.org
www.nws.noaa.gov
www.ncsparta.net
www.readync.com
<http://apps.dot.state.nc.us/tims/>
www.redcross.org
<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/disaster/>
<http://149.168.212.15/NcVOAD/index.htm>
<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>
<http://gcmd.gsfc.nasa.gov/records/NASA-NDRD.html>
<http://www.freshstart.ncat.org/>
<http://training.fema.gov/>

AGENCY

Federal Emergency Management Agency
National Emergency Management Association
Emergency Management Accreditation Program
Emergency Management Assistance Compact
NC Dept of Crime Control and Public Safety
National Weather Service
Web EOC
NC Dept of Crime Control and Public Safety
NC Dept of Transportation Statewide Road Information
American Red Cross
NC Cooperative Extension
NC Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster
National Hurricane Center
Natural Disaster Reference Database
NC Center for Appropriate Technology
Emergency Management Institute